

Discursive Writing Guidance Sheet

- Create a piece of discursive writing showing a balanced argument for and against mobile phones being used in schools.
- Use this guidance sheet and information on the following website to help: <https://21stcenturyrepairs.co.uk/2019/10/why-mobile-phones-should-be-allowed-in-schools/#:~:text=Instead%20of%20a%20text%2Fphone,them%20a%20sense%20of%20security.>

Structure

Title: Mobile phones should be allowed in schools

Paragraph 1 - Introduction

- Explain what you will be discussing in this piece of writing.
- For example: *The COVID-19 pandemic forced schools around the world to close and learning to move online. This meant there was an increase in this use of technology for learning and teaching and has raised the question of whether mobile phones should be allowed in school to support children's learning. In this balanced argument, I will be discussing reasons for and against mobile phones being allowed in schools.*

Paragraph 2: Explain your first reason "for" (eg, mobile phones can be used to support pupils learning)

- Begin with an opening sentence which states your first argument. Remember to start your sentence with a time connective e.g. firstly,
 - *Firstly, mobile phones can be used to support pupils learning.*
- Explain your point in more detail by adding more information.
- See paragraph entitled "mobile phones used during lesson" on the website (link at the top of page).

Paragraph 3: Explain your second reason "for" (in case of emergencies)

- Opening sentence which states the second argument for.
- *E.g. Secondly, many people feel that mobile phones are necessary in school in case there is an emergency and pupils need to contact their parents.*
- Explain this point in more detail by adding more information.
- See paragraph on the website (link at the top of page).

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Paragraph 4: Explain your first reason against (Cyber bullying)

- Opening sentence which shows you are explaining the other side of the argument. For example
 - *On the other hand, many teachers feel that allowing mobile phones in school will increase incidents of cyber bullying.*
- Explain this point in more detail by adding more information.
- See paragraph on the website (link at the top of page).

Paragraph 5: Explain your second reason against (Causes distractions)

- Opening sentence which explains second reasons against. For example:
 - *Furthermore, allowing mobile phones during lessons could cause unnecessary distractions to pupils.*
- Explain this point in more detail by adding more information.
- See paragraph on the website (link at the top of page).

Paragraph 6: Conclusion

- Write a few sentences to sum up your arguments.
- For example: *In conclusion, there are many arguments for mobile phones being used in schools, including to support pupil's learning and to allow quick contact in emergency situations. There are also reasons against, such as the risk of increased cyber bullying and causing unnecessary distractions to pupils. After looking at both sides, I feel that mobile phones should/should not be allowed in school because...*